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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : **Mohammad A. Laham, et al.**

Title of Invention : **MAINTENANCE SYSTEM AND
METHOD FOR AN OPTICAL SWITCH
FABRIC**

Serial No. : **09/884,369**

Date Filed : **June 19, 2001**

Attorney Docket No. : **312/3**

Box Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-referenced application by adding the following text under the title:

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS:

a1
This application claims priority of United States Provisional Patent Application Serial
No. 60/238,363, filed on October 6, 2000.

REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is made to claim the benefit of an earlier filed provisional application regarding the subject matter of this application.